

ACORN

The Journal of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario



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The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc.
10 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3
Telephone (416) 367-8075



A society incorporated in 1933 for the preservation of the best examples of the architecture of the province, and for the protection of its places of natural beauty.

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Branch Editors

Quinte Region
Rodger C. Greig
Cherry Valley, Ontario
K0K 1P0

Port Hope
Marion Garland
86 Augusta St.
Port Hope
L1A 1G9

Toronto Region
G. Onen
30 Inglewood Drive
Toronto, Ontario
M4T 1G8
(416) 923-5492

Brant County
Michael Keefe
165 Tollgate Road
Brantford, Ontario
N3R 5A2
(519) 759-0948

Heritage Oxford
Jack Hedges
380 Admiral Street
Woodstock, Ontario
N4S 5A8
(519) 537-2248

London Region
Howard Pulver
75 Thorton Avenue
London, Ontario
N5Y 2Y5
(519) 679-9932

Huron County
John Rutledge
194 St. David St.
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 1L8

ACO Executive

President

Julia Beck

Senior Vice-President

Alec Keefer

Vice-Presidents

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Rod Angevarre

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Bill Greer

Executive Secretary

John Martins-Manteiga

Editorial Staff

Editor-in-Chief

Marg Rowell

131 William St. W.,

Waterloo, Ontario N2L 1K2

(519) 743-0833

Editors Emeriti

Marion Walker Garland

Peter John Stokes

Cover:
Seagram Distillery Fire
Waterloo, Ontario
Photo by Lorne Hymers

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President's Report

The first article in this issue of ACORN, "Proposal for the Organisation of a Society for the Preservation of Early Architecture and Places of Natural Beauty in Ontario", was originally printed in October, 1932. It was passed on to me recently by Donna Baker, a past president of the ACO, who received it from Eric Arthur, a member of the committee formed to secure the incorporation of the society. It is accompanied by a list of 190 buildings photographed or measured at that time and a list of people (147) to whom the proposal was sent. Many of these people did become charter members of the ACO the next year.

It is an appropriate time to reprint this proposal. It gives us an insight into the type of society that the organising committee had in mind - far better than the dry Letters Patent developed the following year - at a time when we are preparing a strategic plan for the ACO and working on a book which will commemorate the work of Eric Arthur and recognize the importance of the photographs he had taken of early buildings across the province.

There is no doubt that the mandate of the new society was to be the preservation of the best examples of the early architecture of Ontario and the protection of its places of natural beauty. The founders were not interested in caring for "Queen Anne" or "Queen Anne Revival" houses and later buildings which are important to us now. But that is not surprising - these Queen Anne houses were only 30 years old when Eric Arthur and his friends prepared the proposal. The buildings we now regard as important cover a wider period mainly, I believe, because another 60 years have passed.

In many ways, little has changed. We still grieve that old buildings are being lost "by demolition or fire, or marred by alteration or decay"; and we are still working to convince the Provincial Government that preserving our architectural heritage will increase "the interest of the better type of tourists in the Province". The founders foresaw that the buildings would have to be preserved partly by research and education, and partly by acquisition, and also that branches or "regional committees" would develop. The proposal emphasised that the photographs and drawings of early buildings prepared by Professor Eric Arthur and his associates would be placed at the disposal of the

society.

In other ways, Ontario has changed a great deal in sixty years. The population has become more diverse, other organisations interested in conserving buildings have been formed, we have an Ontario Heritage Act, and, very likely, in 1994 we shall have a revised Heritage Act.

Have we lived up to the work and the vision of the founders of The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario? We need to look back as well as forward as we develop a strategic plan. If you have ideas on where the ACO should be going, write a letter to the editor of ACORN or telephone a member of the Executive. If you would like to help in any way with the book commemorating the work of Eric Arthur, phone William Moffet through the ACO office (416-367-8075).

Julia Beck

Editorial

We hope you had a good summer. How soon the good weather passes and we once again face fall with its beautiful colours and frosty weather close at hand.

This has not been a good summer for architectural preservation in Waterloo, Fire has robbed us of the premier building in the Seagram Distillery Complex. The building was to be the focus of a redevelopment plan for the property. A loss such as this certainly impacts on the whole city. It's tragic to lose another significant building to fire. We all know of others which have met a similar end. One quite early house, the May-Clarke-Seyler House, late 18th century, near Port Dalhousie (St. Catharines) comes to mind. Uninhabited and somewhat in need of repair, it was about to be moved to a new site and plans were being made to restore it when flames sealed its fate.

Fire is not the only enemy of old buildings. Neglect can be as bad and have the same results; only neglect results in a slow death, fire is a quick end. A case in point is the Boyd estate in Bobcaygeon where neglect and rampant vandalism will probably result in the demolition of the structure.

On a brighter note, we visited the 200 year old Fairfield-White House on Highway 33 near Kingston toward Bath, Ontario. The house, in excellent condition, was receiving a new coat of paint. This house belongs to the St. Lawrence Parks

Commission but is not funded by them. In order to preserve the house and continue its operation as a house museum the Fairfield Homestead Heritage Association was formed. These volunteers are doing the best they can under trying circumstances. We met a very knowledgeable young guide who took us on a tour. It is a wonderful house, with viewing windows left in the walls to show the structure, particularly the mud and straw nogging in the exterior frame wall. Some of the furniture that was owned by the family is out of storage and on display.

Surely, even though the economy is weak, and we are told there is no money for this and that, there must be some way an historic structure such as this can receive adequate funding. The Fairfield Homestead Heritage Association deserves our support. After all how many 1793 houses are there in Ontario?

Our Apology

The article Hidden Treasures Bus Tour that appeared in the last issue of ACORN was written by Alan Beck, not Julia Beck. We are sorry for this error.

Marg Rowell

Council News

CHANGES

The June Council meeting marked Ann Hughson's last official appearance as Executive Secretary but not, we hope, her disappearance from our ranks. The new position of Heritage Administrator has been filled by John Martins-Manteiga, who took up his duties in July.

CASH CALENDAR

This fund-raising initiative, the brainchild of Rod Angevaere, was approved by council at the June meeting and is based on an amazingly successful scheme used by the Rotary Club and CNIB. Each branch has been asked to submit two photographs of heritage buildings which are still standing. One will be chosen from each branch. The remaining two months will be illustrated by photos of the Skinner-Jackson House in Camden East and Barnum House, the ACO's first restoration project. Rod has also asked the branches to assist with lo-

cal advertising and sponsors.

AGM/CONFERENCE '94

We are delighted to confirm that Heritage Cambridge will host the ACO's major event of the year. Scheduled for the last weekend of April, the theme for the weekend revolves around the issue of historic houses being converted into museums. The Ontario Museums Association will co-sponsor the section entitled "When a House is Not a Home". A second section, "A Gift to Last", explores the fate of great houses left to municipalities and institutions.

POSTAL RATES

After long and fruitless negotiations with the Post Office, the ACO has found a way to reduce the mailing costs of Acorn through private enterprise. Postage Savers of Scarborough will pick up, sort and stamp any 1000 pieces of identical mail for 46 cents a copy. Ann Hughson was alert enough to pick their ad out of the flood of mail that comes into the office, and Marg Rowell immediately followed through. Hurray for them!

HIDDEN TREASURES II

The second of our 60th Anniversary bus tours is scheduled for Labour Day weekend, along Highway 2 from Cornwall to Brockville. Not only does the itinerary for these tours follow the less travelled routes, but participants get to see inside buildings not usually open to the public. The OMA is co-sponsoring the current tour, which includes a museum stop. We hope to build a market for Hidden Treasures and make it an annual event. (This event has been postponed to September 24, 25, 26.)

Margaret Goodbody

Proposal for the Organization of a Society for the Preservation of Early Architecture in Ontario and Places of Natural Beauty

It is proposed to organize in Ontario a Society with the object of preserving the best existing examples of the early architecture of the Province, and of protecting its places of natural beauty.

In England, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, and The National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty, have preserved for posterity many fine old buildings and beautiful natural sites, of which Haddon Hall, in Derbyshire, Runnymede, where the Magna Charta was signed, and Stonehenge, on Salisbury Plain, are examples. Organizations with similar objects exist in other parts of the Empire. In South Africa, the National Society has preserved a large number of interesting buildings that date from the earliest period of white settlement. In Quebec, the Historic Monuments Commission devotes itself primarily to the old churches and houses in that Province, many of which are recorded in the Commission's beautifully illustrated and already rare publications. In Ontario, organizations such as the U.E. Loyalists Associations, and some of the local societies and Women's Institutes, are performing valuable public service in making better known and in some instances preserving places of historical interest in their several localities. But the work of these bodies is necessarily limited to their special historical interests or their territorial associations, and Ontario, as a whole, still lacks a comprehensive organization concerned primarily with the preservation of the early architecture of the Province, and the protection of its places of natural beauty.

The old buildings of Ontario not only possess a definite character of their own, but display a high level of intrinsic architectural merit. Indeed they include examples which, in artistic interest, are not surpassed even in the older settled Provinces. Every year one or more of these buildings is lost by demolitions or fire, or marred by alteration or decay, and unless some determined effort at preservation is instituted, future generations will lose what may be properly described as a fine artistic heritage.

During the last five years more than two hundred of these buildings, representing the best remaining specimens throughout the Province, have been photographed and in some instances measured and drawn in detail by Professor E.R. Arthur of the School of Architecture of the University of Toronto, and associates of his, who are placing this valuable material at the disposal of the proposed Society. A map of the Province showing the location of these buildings has also been prepared and is available for publication. The annexed list indicates the extent of the work already accomplished, while some idea of its character and interest can be obtained from the reprint of an illustrated article from the University of Toronto Quarterly, which is also enclosed.

The first aim of the proposed Society will be to complete the work of recording the early buildings in the Province, and to make them better known, for it is thought that when their interest for posterity has been brought to the attention of their present owners and the public, the first step towards the preservation will have been accomplished. Ultimately, public spirited citizens may, as in the case of similar organizations elsewhere, desire to make gifts or legacies for the acquisition of buildings and lands which it will be the proposed Society's objective to preserve. These may include sites of natural beauty, which should be preserved from defacement or destruction, and maintained with their natural features unimpaired. It is thought that with the co-operation of the Provincial authorities, of the local societies mentioned, and of regional committees of the members of the proposed Society, its range of usefulness can be steadily increased. It is, moreover, believed that the objects of the proposed Society will not only interest the people of the Province, but will also justify the support of the Provincial Government, particularly as a means of increasing the interest of the better type of tourists in the Province.

The annexed list of persons to whom this circular is being sent is not final, and

it is hoped in time to extend the list to include other representative citizens in every part of the Province who may be interested in the objects of the proposed Society. All charges in connection with its organization have been provided for, and it is not proposed to make any financial demands on any persons who may become members, except an annual fee of \$2.00. If you are willing to become a charter member of the proposed Society, the Committee that has been formed for the purpose of securing its incorporation will be glad to have you sign and return the enclosed authorization.

Eric Arthur

What Has Happened To Our Members?

We have just discovered that the ACO has lost between 20% and 35% of its 1990/1991 members. In the last three years many new people have joined, but why did so many members drop out?

This is one of the questions we shall try to answer when we make plans for the next five years. We want members to take part in this planning process. This is **your** organization: it does not belong to the Branch Executives or to Council. Tell us what you would like the ACO to do by sending a note marked ACO Plans to the head office, at 10 Adelaide Street East, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 1J3, or if you send us your name and telephone number, we will make sure that you are included in discussions.

Julia Beck

Members Input Requested For A 5 - Year Strategic Plan

Council is preparing a Strategic Plan to give direction for ACO activities over the next five years. We are confronting challenges which we must address. Notwithstanding major accomplishments in the five years since our last policy review, three major problem areas persist: our membership level is static, our fund-raising is inadequate to maintain our autonomy, and communications between Council and the branches remain problematic. Membership involvement is vital at this time to tackle these issues and others which members may wish to raise.

A Strategic Planning Forum is scheduled for Saturday, November 27, 1993, 1:00 p.m. at the Ontario Heritage Centre, 10 Adelaide Street, East, Toronto. You are urged to attend. If this is not possible, please forward your thoughts and advice to your Branch President. For further information contact head office at (416) 367-8075, President Julia Beck at (519) 672-3124, or your Branch executive.

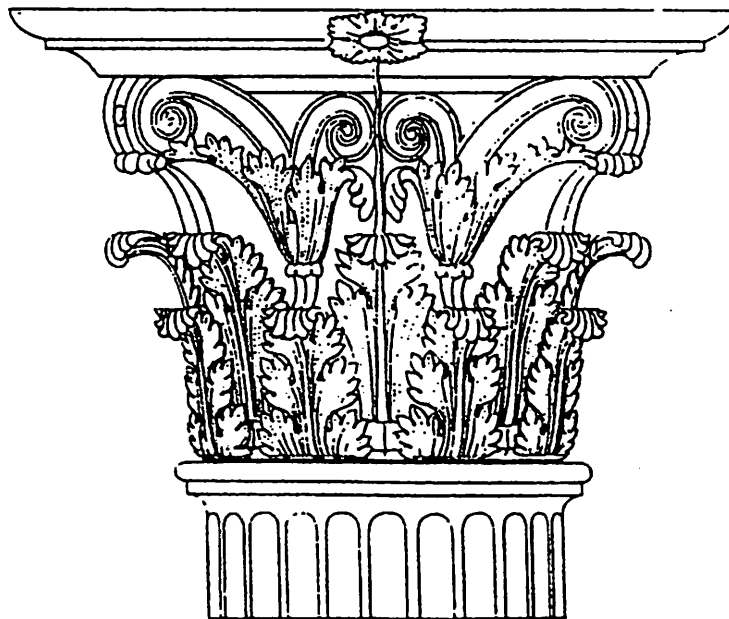
PORT HOPE BRANCH
ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVANCY OF ONTARIO
ANNUAL HOUSE TOUR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1993

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Ontario Cottages • A Country Estate • Two Pied-à-Terre
One of Canada's Last Atmospheric theatres • Plus much more

Admission \$12.00



Tickets available at:

Smiths Creek Antiques, 27 Walton St., Port Hope
Lord Russboroughs Annex, 136 Walton St., Port Hope
Furby House Books, 64 Walton St., Port Hope
Margles Ladieswear, 35 King St. W., Cobourg

or by writing to:

Port Hope ACO, P.O. Box 563, Port Hope, Ontario L1A 3Z4

Please Call 885-6960 for Further Information



Branch Reports

Port Hope

HOUSE TOUR

The Port Hope Annual House Tour this year again promises to break new ground and raise the standard of tours in Southern Ontario Towns.

In the past few years we have introduced Walking Tours: 'Englishtown' (Baldwin Street) 1990; King Street 1991; Bandshell Tour, restoration and renovation project was spearheaded, contracted and partially funded by Port Hope ACO.

This year we are pleased to have the Capitol Theatre on tour. The Port Hope ACO has set up a foundation complete with committees to restore, fund raise and find viable uses for this building as a community centre for the arts.

We will also introduce two cemetery walking tours, both cemeteries are the final resting place for many of our settlement ancestors. St. Mark's Cemetery and Canton Cemetery will help draw attention to the importance of local history, after all many of the builders of these fantastic local buildings are resting in these grounds. The grave of former Governor General Vincent Massey is in St. Mark's.

Port Hope is fortunate to have a good supply of architectural styles and generous home owners who restore their dwellings and allow 1500 people to go through their premises on tour day.

This year, the tour consists of four Ontario Cottages, the Capitol Theatre, St. John's Anglican Church, two apartments above Smith's Creek Antiques, and a house built in 1916 in Canton. The date is **Saturday, October 2**. Tickets are **\$12.00 each**. They are available at: Smith's Creek Antiques, Furby House Books, Lord Russboroughs Annex and Margles Ladies Wear in Cobourg.

Please call (416) 885-6960 for more information; or, to order tickets, write to Port Hope ACO, P.O. Box 563, Port Hope, Ont. L1A 3Z4. Please include \$1.00 shipping and handling for 5 or less tickets and \$2.00 for 6 or more tickets.

Amy Quinn

GARDEN TOUR

"Down the Garden Path" is the perfect theme for the Port Hope ACO Garden Tour. What is so delightful is that every garden has its own personality, and you never know what you will find in one's backyard. This was the third Garden Tour (a Biennial tour) for the Port Hope ACO and it took place on two Saturdays, June 19th and June 26th. We had everything from postage stamp backyards filled with flowers and vines to a large garden reminiscent of an English country estate.

Water Gardens were very much part of the tour, over half of the gardens either had natural or man-made water ponds.

The tour committee, Kathryn McHolm, Suzie Routh, and Amy Quinn wanted the visitors to the gardens to understand that by gardening you can help the environment and learn something as well. The water gardens delighted the guests as well as the water striders, dragon flies and birds. Daphne Svenningson gave an excellent slide presentation at the library on Butterflies in Your Garden. As well, she was on hand to answer questions and distributed lists of flowers and shrubs to plant to attract these delicate guests.

The only worry was about the annual gardens, it really was a little too early for them as they were just planted. It rained the first Saturday, although it was more of a constant drizzle. This didn't bother the tour guests though (all avid gardeners) as the flowers held their blooms and the light for photos was perfect. The second Saturday was sunny and hot, we had more complaints about the weather that day.

The tour corresponded to Century Home Magazine's 10th Anniversary weekend in Port Hope. Century Home Magazine sold Garden Tour tickets as a fund raiser for the Capitol Theatre. Happily over \$8,000 was raised. Caswell and Quinn Antiques and Gardens, Lord Russborough's Annex (both in Port Hope) and Gardens Past of Cobourg sold tickets as well. The money from these tickets will be used for the restoration of outdoor public spaces.

Amy Quinn

PORT HOPE BRANCH (ACO) ASSISTS CAPITOL THEATRE RESTORATION

At its regular meeting of Thursday, September 2, 1993, the Port Hope Branch of the ACO pledged to support the restoration of the marquee, foyer and interior painting of the courtyard (auditorium) of Port Hope's treasured Capitol Theatre.

The meeting moved that the restoration of the front marquee be the first element to be undertaken and to that end, they approved an initial contribution of \$15,000 for 1993.

Major donations to the Theatre Foundation are beginning to come in. The enthusiastic support of the Downtown Building Owners to date has produced pledges of no less than \$80,000 to help pay off the mortgage. A fund-raiser by a local publishing company realized an additional \$18,000 while the Heritage Ganaraska Arts Foundation has donated its entire capital of about \$18,000!

Needless to say, the Foundation is encouraged by the support and interest of groups such as these - including that of the ACO which has done so much for the local community over the years.

Starting in the middle of September, the Foundation began its very own "Seat Sell" whereby each of the 480 seats required to complete the theatre will be sold for \$500.00 each. Supporters will find a range of convenient payment plans (VISA deductions, 3 year pledges, groups purchases i.e. members of a family or group, etc.). Donors will be recognized with a suitable plaque on each seat. (For further details, contact the Foundation at 416-885-2449.)

The Foundation Board has now adopted a three-phase Strategic Plan which will serve as a "roadmap" to guide the restoration and refurbishing program.

Phase I will seek to re-open the theatre on an "as is" basis for informal community purposes - hopefully early in 1994. First, the Foundation will complete a technical assessment of the electrical, mechanical and life safety systems in order to determine the required code upgrades.

Following the assessment, working drawings and specifications will be prepared so as to accommodate competitive bids from qualified contractors. Phase I will also include an inventory of all interior and exterior finishes followed by the awarding of contracts.

Since the Capitol Theatre was acquired on May 31 of this year, consid-

erable interest has been shown by the community. Membership now exceeds 650.

The Foundation has a short (5 minute) video available - at no charge - which gives a quick tour of the theatre pointing out many of the architectural highlights of this gem. To borrow a copy, contact Doug Gellatly, Publicity Chairman, at 416-885-5350.

FIRST WORLD WAR ARTILLERY PIECE

The large gun was removed from in front of the Town Hall because of its deteriorating condition. It has been sitting at the works yard ever since.

According to ACO member Darrell Leeson's letter to Council, the artillery piece belonged to the Germans but was captured by Canadian soldiers during the battle of Vimy Ridge in April 1917. Unfortunately the Branch is not in a position to help pay for the restoration.

TOWN HALL

Council and LACAC are finally proceeding with the designation of the Town Hall. It has been a long, drawn-out affair as there were Council members who were afraid of designation. Council is now waiting for the survey.

Marion Garland

London Region

LONDON REGION ACO ASSISTS HERITAGE PRESERVATION

BEACON LODGE

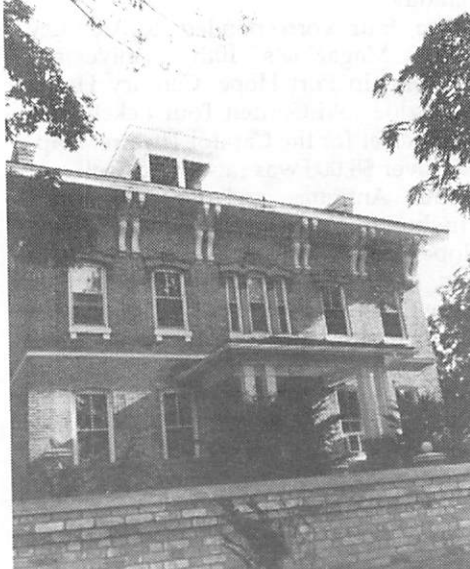
The restoration of the belvedere which originally crowned the peak of "Beacon Lodge" 53 McClary Avenue and the restoration of the distinctive corner porch at 83 Smith Street are being assisted by grants provided by the London Region Branch.

A grant program has been established by the London Region Branch to assist as many as three property owners per year with grants of up to \$1500 to restore a heritage property. The property must be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act or the owner must be willing to designate a property which is listed in the London Inventory of Heritage

Resources. The funding is intended to assist owners where provincial grants are not available due to limited funds or for other reasons.

As shown in the photograph the belvedere at "Beacon Lodge" is now in place. The glazing has yet to be completed. Fortunately historic photographs were available showing the design of the belvedere in sufficient detail to permit plans for its reconstruction to be developed. The ACO grant covered \$3,000 of the cost of the plans which was not eligible for a provincial grant. Although the owner was eligible for a Commercial Sector grant from the province to reconstruct the belvedere, no funding was provided due to budget constraints. The owner was sufficiently interested in restoring this important heritage property that he decided to proceed using his own financial resources.

"Beacon Lodge" was the home of John McClary and is believed by the owner to have been built as early as 1864. Italianate in style, the house has wide projecting eaves with large paired ornamental brackets. Originally the windows were totally shuttered with fixed shutters beneath the elaborate cut stone window heads. The original verandah surrounded both the front and side elevations. John McClary founded the McClary Manufacturing Company which operated from 1847 to 1927 when it was absorbed by General Steel Wares. The London factories located at York and Wellington Streets and on Adelaide Street north of the Thames River produced household equipment, appliances, farm equipment and farm machinery for markets throughout Canada and the British Empire.



Beacon Lodge, 53 McClary Avenue c. 1864
Howard Pulver

83 SMITH STREET

The house at 83 Smith Street, a short distance east of the former McClary factory location on Adelaide Street, is one of a group of twenty-two similar workers cottages built on the west side of the street between 1909 and 1910. The houses are of locally produced white brick with a shingled front gable and bargeboards. They also have a small corner porch built into the ground floor which had a turned post at the corner. Assistance has been provided to find someone who would produce a replacement corner post and porch spindles for 83 Smith Street. When the property is designated the owner will receive a \$1,500 grant toward the cost of replacing these features. Other property owners are also being encouraged to designate their properties and restore this unique collection of turn of the century dwellings.

Howard Pulver



83 Smith Street c. 1909
Howard Pulver

North Waterloo Region

Another chapter was written in the history of the Joseph E. Seagram distillery in Waterloo. Around noon on July 12, 1993, fire broke out in the Grain Elevator, Flour Mill and Distillery building. The largest and oldest production building, the most attractive structure, that served as a backdrop for the Seagram Museum, went up in flames with no hope of saving its contents or facade.

Of the several hundred spectators, few had known one of the most colourful Waterloo families or the history be-

hind their multi-million dollar distilling empire they had acquired in 1883.

The 1865 burned building had been cleaned and highlighted in 1984 when the Seagram Museum opened, yet it had remained as a functioning plant until Seagrams closed all operations in 1992.

The vine-covered walls, the mansard roof with patterned siding, gabled dormers with 6 over 6 windows and a carved and painted wooden door, had become an architectural landmark.

The entire Seagram operation was located in the centre of Waterloo. It occupied 11.5 acres and while other early core industries had closed their door years ago, Seagrams remained an enduring manufacturing presence.

The business began in 1857 when George Randall, a railway engineer and William Hespeler a grain merchant in Berlin (Kitchener), built a grist mill called Granite Mills. A third partner, William Roos, joined the company in 1865 and together they operated a brewing and distilling business.

Over the next 30 years, barrel warehouses, a cooperage, and other additions were added to the property. Joseph E. Seagram, a relative of William Hespeler was appointed to assist the company, and in 1883 he purchased the interests of the other stockholders to become the sole owner. The business was then named J.E. Seagram's Distillery. With the death of Joseph E. in 1919, his sons Edward, Thomas, and Norman operated as Joseph E. Seagram & Sons. They continued to manage the company until 1928 when they sold out to Distiller's Corporation. The company proceeded with business as usual and the name Joseph E. Seagram & Sons remained and appeared on all products as it does today.

However, not all was going well for the Seagram company. In the Fall of 1990, it was announced that the Waterloo plant, the oldest and smallest of

Seagram's Canadian operations, would close due to provincial and federal tax levies. The last production took place in the fall of 1992. During 1993, vats, stills and other distilling equipment was moved to other plants and the warehouses (built in the early 1950s) and the Gordon's Gin building were demolished. Company officials met with the LACAC last fall to map out what could be saved, and officials stated that all buildings of historical value, except the Gordon's Gin building, could be saved for future development.

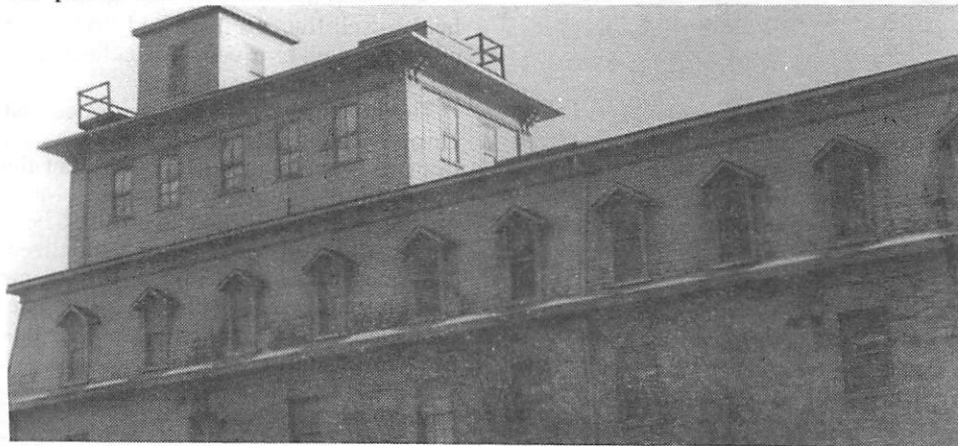


Kuntz-Labatt's House, King Street, Waterloo.
Bob Rowell

After the demolition and fire, five heritage structures remain: the boiler building, two warehouses, the old cooperage and the refurbished Seagram office building.

In August, Seagram's officials indicated to Waterloo council that they have an overall plan for the redevelopment of the site. It would include office towers, a hotel, residential units, and renovation of the two warehouses for offices.

Presently, the Seagram Museum remains as a separate and enduring entity but the barrel pyramid in the courtyard just outside its entrance, towers above a backdrop of ruins.



Seagram Museum and Distillery Building, before the fire. Erb Street, Waterloo.
Bob Rowell

LABATT'S

Less than a block from Seagram's the old Kuntz Brewery later to become Labatt's ceased operations in the fall of 1992. All buildings except the designated Kuntz-Labatt's House, on the 6.1 acre site are presently being demolished.

The business was first established by David Kuntz, a German immigrant who was a cooper and brewer. He located his brewery on the Kent Hotel property in 1844, and moved to the present site in 1856 where he built a larger brewery.

Because he used the spring water in this area, he called his new business the Spring Brewery.

David's son Louis succeeded his father in the business and renamed it the L. Kuntz Brewery. In 1929 it was sold to E.P. Taylor. When the Carling Brewery in London, Ontario was closed in 1936, it was amalgamated with the L. Kuntz Brewery in Waterloo and became the Carling Kuntz Brewery and later Carling O'Keefe.

The facility was sold to Labatt's in 1977 and they remained in business until the fall of 1992.

Labatt's consultants are considering ways in which to use the property when demolition is completed at the end of this year.

The Kuntz-Labatt's house will be for sale. Built about 1886 by the Kuntz family, it was designated in 1974. The house is Italianate in style, constructed of yellow brick with wide bracketed eaves. The windows are 2/2 segmentally arched. Alterations in the 1920s resulted in altered windows on the first floor at the front.

The City of Waterloo has lost two heritage landmarks, vital industries and a tangible link with the past.

Margaret Zavaros

The Boyd House

The information for this article is from the Bobcaygeon Public Library from a report written by D. Perry Short, Architect, in Sault Ste. Marie. It was written for the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada in 1969.

This large 39 room house is located on Canal Street in Bobcaygeon. The house began as a one storey frame dwelling, owned by Thomas Need, who owned a sawmill at the Bobcaygeon rapids.

Mossom Boyd was Need's "trustworthy agent". He had come to Upper Canada in 1834 at the age of about 19 years. In 1837 he operated Need's store and sawmill while Need was on a visit to England. Need came back to Bobcaygeon in 1840 only to leave again permanently in 1844 after receiving an inheritance. In the same year, Boyd married Caroline Dunsford. He leased the mill reserve, with "gristmill, sawmill and tenement thereon" for a term of seven years for £40 yearly from Thomas Need. Boyd bought the house and mills in 1855, the year Mossom M. Boyd was born.

and family". The south wing (later parlor and billiard-room) were added before 1880.

Mossom Boyd Sr. was ill from 1880 until his death in 1883. During this time

house for children's bedrooms and a school room. The third storey was added for servants and more children's rooms and storage.

The north wing, stucco over sawmill



Boyd House showing the stucco over sawnail plank addition built in 1896.
Bob Rowell

ADDITIONS TO THE HOUSE

"The lower middle part of the present house was built up 1844-1860 around the frame house from Need. A more substantial stone foundation, a second store, and some additions to the south and east were probably made in this period as a result of increasing prosperity

the rooms over the south wing, on the second floor, were built. Two more additions were started in 1883. The first one to the south, the other perhaps to the east. Mossom Boyd Jr. married in 1883 and between 1884 and 1894 had seven children. This necessitated the second floor extension across the whole

plank, was added in 1896 by J. Belcher of Peterborough, architect and relative.

Local lumbering and the mill closed down in 1910-1914 and Mossom Boyd Jr. died in 1914.

Boyd's prosperity was a result of his "shrewdness and vitality and his family teamwork". He had 400 square miles of timber limits, several sawmills, and lumberyards. His farms totalled over 5000 acres. He owned several steamships and was helping to promote a railway from Whitby to Lindsay. He was also a promoter of the Trent Valley Canal. The records of his industrial enterprise survive at the Bobcaygeon Library and in the Public Archives at Ottawa.

Several years ago a public auction was held to sell the furniture and household effects as well as a very fine collection of art. The auction took days.

The house is now sadly neglected and empty. The lower floor windows and doorways are boarded up. Many of the upper floor windows are broken. Much of the wide moulded trim has been ripped out and the interior vandalized. This magnificent old house, behind the high stone wall will likely be demolished and we will lose another link in Ontario's built heritage.

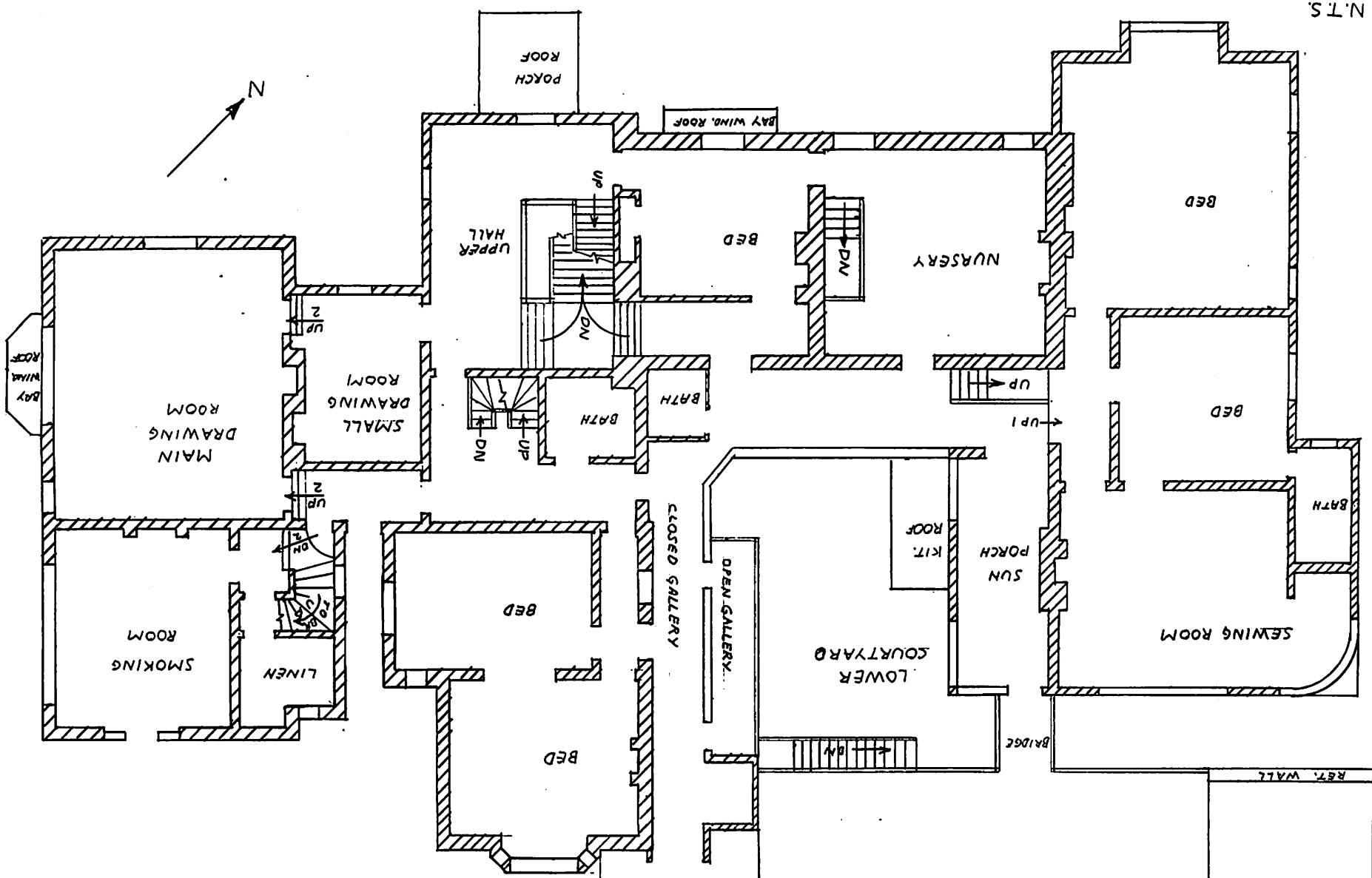
Marg Rowell



Boyd House. The original house is enclosed within the section that has the enclosed porch. The additions on either side are of buff brick.
Bob Rowell

MOSSOM BOYD HOUSE
BOBCAYGEON
SECOND FLOOR

LOCATION OF
GREENHOUSE



The Restoration of Whitehern and Dundurn Castle, Hamilton

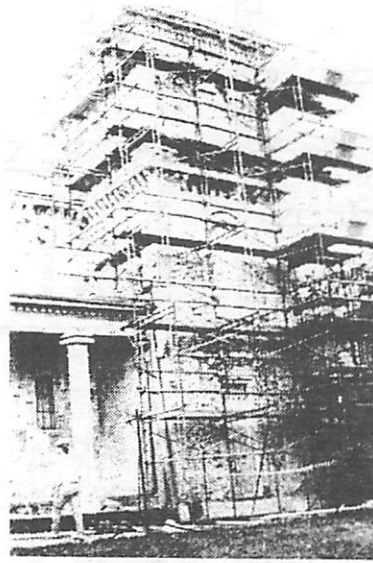
Many years of investigation, research and patience have resulted in a remarkable and unique pair of restoration projects for the City of Hamilton.

Dundurn Castle and the Cockpit, an early nineteenth century country villa and outbuilding, and Whitehern, a handsome Georgian townhouse, are surrounded by scaffolding and bustling with activity. Professional staff, with technical advice from the provincial Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation, and the federal Museum Assistance Programme, are guiding a team of skilled specialists.

The museums are open throughout the restoration to provide a rare, first hand look at the process of architectural preservation. Tradespeople are combining modern technology and tools with the traditional methods and materials to replicate work done over a century ago. At Dundurn, the removal of the original deteriorated stucco has revealed the underlying brickwork for the first time since it was completed in the 1830's. As the stucco is replaced and woodwork restored, the present flat beige exterior will be transformed with the original rich combination of colours and textures. The Cockpit, a mysterious and unique building is being brought back from the edge of collapse to begin a new long life as an interpretation centre. At Whitehern you will see a virtual textbook of masonry restoration technology as years of grime and damage are carefully removed from the walls. As well, both projects include fascinating archaeological digs which have provided important information for the restoration and interpretation of these national Historic Sites.

The projects have been made possible through funding secured from the generosity of Jobs Ontario and the Cultural Improvement Programme through the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation; Access to Archaeology and Cultural Initiatives Programme funding through the Department of Communications as well as Employment and Immigration Canada, Federal Government and from the Corporation of the City of Hamilton through capital funding and

LACAC designation grants. Individuals as well as groups like MacNab Circle and the Garden Club of Hamilton have also been gracious with their assistance.



North facade stucco restoration at Dundurn Castle

DUNDURN CASTLE ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE RESTORATION PROGRAMME

The restoration programme currently under way at Dundurn Castle is a model of how modern restoration projects should be conducted. Historical architects, historians, museum curators, conservators and archaeologists are working together to create a detailed historical representation of the landscape and buildings within Dundurn Park.

Dundurn Castle became the focus of intense interest beginning in 1991 when a programme of archaeological excavation was carried out in the kitchen courtyard. Over a period of twenty weeks visitors to the Castle were able to view the ongoing excavation and witness firsthand the careful stripping of the earth by archaeologists as the revealed previously undocumented information about Dundurn's past. Discoveries included evidence of a cannon platform adjacent to a War of 1812 period earthwork and indications of fortifications around the early Beasley house constructed c.1800.

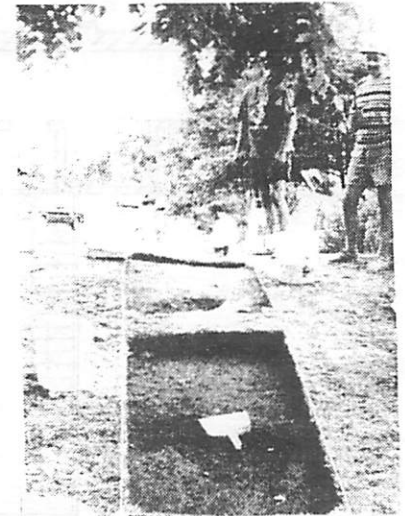
As the below grade architectural features were being exposed by archaeologists the roof restoration project was being carried out overhead. Almost

a century and a half earlier in 1847 Sir Allan MacNab himself oversaw a programme of refurbishing and alteration to this Italianate villa. Interestingly, evidence of this mid-nineteenth century renovation programme was revealed through archaeological excavation.

In 1992 excavation continued on the Bay side of the Castle where the remains of Richard Beasley's summer kitchen were found. This structure was built c.1823 and was re-used by Sir Allan. The building was finally torn down and buried during the 1847 renovations.

Further work was carried out in the "Cockpit" basement as the first stage of the planned restoration and stabilization programme for this estate outbuilding. Four months of careful excavation resulted in the exciting discovery of an earlier building below the cockpit foundation.

The 1993 season includes examination of the War of 1812 period earthwork on the York Blvd. side of the Castle by a team of 11 McMaster University students. Additional work will be carried



Dundurn/McMaster Field School

out on the site of the formal garden at the east side of the estate. Archaeologists working in this areas will be trying to expose garden paths and other landscape elements depicted on an 1851 plan of the property. Further work will include the analysis of seeds and pollen from the soil in an effort to learn about the arrangement of floral species within the garden.

As restoration work continues on the Castle and Cockpit they are slowly being transformed into model examples of nineteenth century architecture. However, far from being static representation of Sir Allan MacNab's architectural aspirations, the combinations of historical,

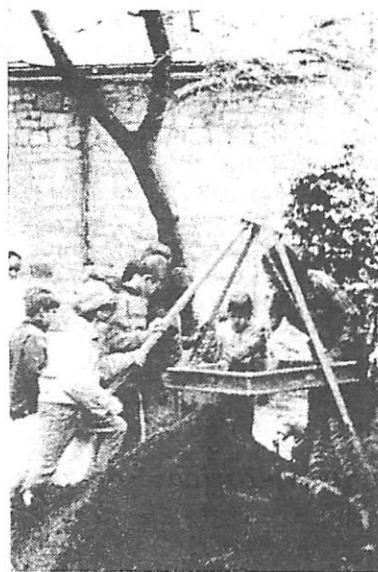
architectural and archaeological research provides for a vivid reconstruction of the events that took place over almost two hundred years of European occupation, and evidence of a fascinating historical mosaic of periods stretching back almost 9000 years when large game hunters roamed the area, to the nineteenth century occupation of Loyalists, soldiers, natives and Sir Allan MacNab.

RESTORATION OF WHITEHERN

Whitehern's first exterior restoration project is presently underway. The project is proving to be as essential to the understanding of the site's history as it is to its preservation and future well-being.

The initial phase of the project, an archaeological dig, uncovered numerous previously hidden features. Most notable discoveries were the walls of the early bake-oven, an opening at the stable's foundation, and two early trash-pit deposits. These features, including many mid-nineteenth and early twentieth century ceramic and glass artifacts, will be interpreted in a special display highlighting the finds of the archaeological project, at the museum early in the new year.

All aspects of the restoration work are offering similar insights into the further understanding of the site. When the badly deteriorated slate roof was removed from the main building, an original 1848 metal roof was uncovered. It appears that in the late nineteenth century, the owner, Dr. McQuesten had covered the metal roof, still in good condition, with



Interpreting Archaeology

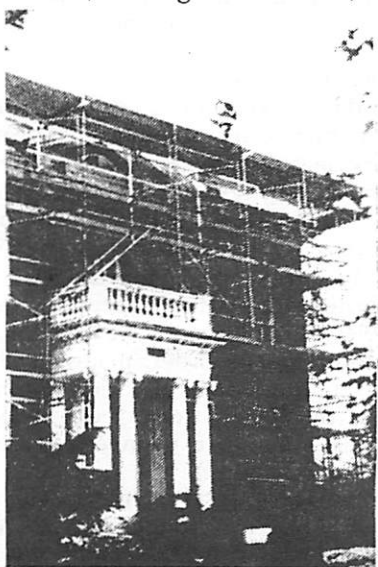
ornamental slate and decorative widow's walk. Although accurate interpretation of the site necessitates that the subsequent roof be replicated, the original metal roof will be preserved and documented, so that all phases of the building history are retained.

Perhaps the most complex aspect of Whitehern's restoration is the stabilization of the masonry. Most of this work will be achieved using the most orthodox materials and methods. New mortar will replicate the composition of the original and hand tools will be used to carefully remove all incompatible and failed mortar. Any severely damaged stones will be repositioned or replaced with appropriate sandstone or dolomitic limestone. The most extreme approach will be limited to the north wall of the stable which having failed entirely, must be rebuilt. Stone by stone dismantling of the wall will enable careful reconstruction as well as analysis of the building to enhance the scant documentation presently available.

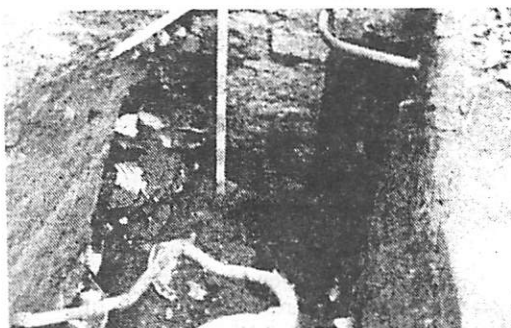
The extent of light-coloured re-pointing required at the facade, necessitates the cleaning of the blackened sandstone in order to avoid a "zebra-look" end result. Preliminary tests have indicated that successful cleaning of much of the accumulated dirt without risk to the masonry will be achieved with a mild chemical wash. By the time Whitehern's exterior restoration is completed later this fall, the building envelope issues, including water systems, windows, wood trim, flagstone paths as well as roofs and masonry, will have been addressed. The appearance of the site will be enhanced, and the long-term preservation of the historic fabric will be ensured. Moreover, the site will have also gained extensive documentary information and new insight into the accurate portrayal of the site.

**Both Whitehern and Dundurn
are Open during restoration:
Dundurn daily 12-4 p.m.;
Whitehern daily 1-4 p.m.**

*Reprinted with the permission of the Department
of Culture and Recreation, city of Hamilton.*



*Scaffolding during masonry restoration
at Whitehern*



Midden deposit

Coming Events

AN ARCHITECTURE EVENING TOUR OF THE LEGISLATIVE BUILDING OF ONTARIO, QUEEN'S PARK

This year, 1993, the Ontario Legislative Building celebrates its 100th birthday. One of the events being held to mark this year-long celebration is an **Architecture Evening Tour of the Building**. Since its opening on April 4, 1893, the Building has been a central part of the province's parliamentary and social history.

Guest speaker restoration architect Julian Smith will conduct a tour of the Legislative Building on **Wednesday, October 20, 1993** highlighting its original design by Architect Richard A. Waite; the subsequent evolution of the use of the building's space; and the master plan that guides the current repair and restoration work on the Legislative Building.

Julian Smith has always had a strong interest in the relationship between architectural conservation and contemporary design. A resident of Ottawa, Mr. Smith completed his post-graduate training in architecture and architectural history at M.I.T. in Boston. After several years as Chief Architect for the Historic Parks and Sites program of Parks Canada, he created his own firm which has completed plans and restorations of numerous public and private buildings in Ontario, sites across Canada, Connecticut and California.

Registration cost is \$10 per person, with the program beginning at 6 p.m. Light refreshments will be served before the tour. *For further information and registration, call the Interparliamentary and Public Relations Branch at (416) 325-7500.*

Toronto 200

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 17: Edwardian Afternoon Tea and Cake Decorating At Spadina.

Demonstrations and discussion of cake decorating and customs of afternoon tea. Spadina, 285 Spadina Road, 1-4 p.m. (416) 392-6910.

November 18-January 6: Christmas Past at the Toronto Historical Board's Historic Houses.

Mackenzie House, Colborne Lodge and Spadina are decorated to represent three different periods in Toronto history - Dickens Christmas, Victorian Christmas, Edwardian Christmas. Experience the traditions of Christmas past and enjoy holiday baking and cider. After Christmas, learn about 12th Night celebrations with hands-on programmes for children. Special educational and adult group programmes available. Mackenzie House, (416) 392-6915; Colborne Lodge (416) 392-6916; Spadina (416) 392-6910.

Ontario Historical Society Events

PRESERVE THE PUDDING

The Ontario Historical Society invites you to Preserve the Pudding!, and also to enjoy a night out, a full-course dinner and a variety of puddings and sauces, made from historic Ontario recipes.

Your host is Lords Steak House at 3 Elmhurst Avenue in Willowdale (just north of the Yonge-Sheppard subway station, on the southwest corner of Yonge Street and Elmhurst Avenue).

You can preserve the pudding on any or all of the following three dates: **Monday, September 27, Wednesday, October 27 and Tuesday, November 30** (7:00 p.m. each evening).

The cost is \$50.00 per person per dinner, and includes soup or salad, a choice of three main courses (beef, chicken or fish), unrestricted access to the puddings and sauces, coffee or tea, free lucky draw tickets, an income tax receipt for \$25.00, and historic pudding recipes to try at home.

To order your Preserve the Pudding! ticket(s), send your payment (payable to The Ontario Historical Society) to: The Ontario Historical Society, 5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5P5, (416) 226-9011, Fax (416) 226-2740.

ONTARIO'S INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE: WORKSHOPS EXPLORING THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF OUR INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE.

Have you ever wondered about the history of abandoned mines, quarries, mills, factories and railways, and the people who worked there? Our diverse industrial heritage is an important, yet

frequently overlooked, cultural resource. What can you, or your community, do to understand and conserve your industrial heritage? Don't miss these workshops, coming to a location near you, to learn more about our industrial heritage and how it can be preserved.

Saturday, October 2, Welland, co-sponsored with Welland Historical Museum.

Saturday, October 16, Cornwall, co-sponsored with the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario and Cornwall LACAC.

Saturday, October 30, East York, co-sponsored with Todmorden Mills Heritage Museum and Art Gallery and East York LACAC.

Saturday, November 13, Windsor, co-sponsored with the Essex County Historical Society.

Registration fees are \$30.00 for members of a co-sponsor and \$40.00 for non-members. Please make cheques payable to The Ontario Historical Society, 5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario, M2N 5P5, (416) 226-9011 or fax (416) 226-2740.

EXPLORE YESTERDAY-TODAY! ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY WORKSHOPS

Saturday, October 2, 1993: Open Hearth Cooking, co-sponsored with Allan Macpherson House and Park, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Napanee. This is your opportunity to try baking and cooking on an open hearth. Registration fee, including lunch, \$25.00.

Saturday, October 23, 1993: Milestones in 19th Century Family Life, co-sponsored with Clarke Museum and Archives, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Orono. A look at birth, marriage and death customs in Victorian Ontario. Registration fee \$20.00, lunch extra.

Sunday, December 5, 1993: Opening of Christmas Card Art Show, 2:00 p.m., 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale. Come out to our new home and view the submissions by young Ontarians to our Christmas Card Contest. Cards with winning designs will be for sale.

Registration, (with payment, if applicable) must be made in advance by cheque or money order, made payable to the Ontario Historical Society. (Members of the OHS receive reduced fees, and must quote their membership numbers on cheques.) For further information, or to send payments, contact the OHS at 5151 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ont. M2N 5P5, telephone (416) 226-9011, fax (416) 226-2740.

FOR RENT

Skinner/Jackson House, owned and operated by the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, is in the charming village of Camden East, on the Napanee River; it is a 20 minute drive from Kingston. The main part of the house (2 bedrooms, living room, dining room) is available for rent by the week or for a week-end.

Sample rents: 2 day week-end \$150
One week \$400



Skinner/Jackson House
Gilles Miramontes

For more information, contact:

ACO office (9:00 - 12 a.m., Mon., Wed., Fri.): (416) 367-8075

OR

Randy Rhem (Camden East): (613) 378-0522

ACORN MAILING

Due to some difficulties with mailing labels, some people may have been missed. If you know someone who did not get this ACORN, please have them call the office and a copy will be sent out.

The financial support of the Ontario Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation, the Honourable Anne Swarbrick, Minister, is gratefully acknowledged.

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